

Requirements for Businesses that Use Weighing or Measuring Devices and/or Point of Sale Systems for Commercial Use

Scales and Meters

State and County laws require the annual registration and inspection of commercial weighing and measuring devices before they are placed into service.

These include:

- Scales
- Gas pumps
- Water vending machines
- Liquefied petroleum gas meters (LPG).
- Taxi meters
- Wire, cordage, & fabric meters
- Utility meters (privately owned)
- Ambulance odometers

Laws also require these devices to be inspected at a defined frequency to determine accuracy and ensure a fair and equitable marketplace.

Scales or meters used in commercial trade must be devices that are type approved in the State of California.

Registration and Annual Fees

To register and pay the annual fee for a Device or Point-of Sale system:

Telephone:

858-694-2778

Visit us at:

Agriculture, Weights and Measures
9325 Hazard Way, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

Check online at:

www.sdcountry.ca.gov/awm/wm.html

Registration fees offset the cost of inspection and testing to ensure commercial devices are in compliance and that retailers honor the lowest posted price.

Point-of-Sale (POS) Systems

County ordinance requires the annual registration of retail POS Systems as defined by California law before being used by a retail establishment.

POS systems include any computer or electronic system such as, but not limited to:

- Universal Product Code Scanners (UPC)
- Price Lookup Codes (PLU)
- Stock-Keeping Units (SKU)
- Other electronic price lookup systems that determine the price of the item being purchased by a consumer.

POS systems used for retail customers must include a customer price display.



What We Do

Agriculture, Weights & Measures ensures a fair marketplace by verifying products are sold by accurate weights, measures, and prices.

Protects consumers so they get what they pay for, pay only the lowest advertised price, and allows true value comparison. Protects businesses by ensuring fair competition in the marketplace.

This seal is affixed to a device after it has been tested and passed by a Weights and Measures inspector.



San Diego County ordinance requires this notice be placed at each retail Point-of-Sale station to advise the consumer who to contact if they believe they have been overcharged.

ATTENTION CONSUMERS:

Check your receipt and notify store management immediately of any overcharge.

Consumers are entitled to pay no more than the lowest posted, advertised, or quoted price for any commodity offered for sale at a retail establishment.

For information or to file a complaint, contact:
County of San Diego,
Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures at:
1-888-TRUE-SCAN (1-888-878-3722) or www.sdcawm.org

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Weighmasters and Service Agencies

Licenses for Weighmasters and Service Agencies are obtained through the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Measurement Standards.

For more information about these licenses and State Weights and Measures visit:
<http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/dms>

More Information

County government home page and ordinances:
<http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/>

National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP)
To check if a device is type approved:
<http://www.ncwm.net/certificates>

References

California Business and Professions Code,
Division 5.
San Diego County Regulatory Ordinances,
Chapter 17 and Chapter 20.



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
AGRICULTURE, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES
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AGRICULTURE & WEIGHTS & MEASURES

Guide to Business Requirements for
Weighing or Measuring Devices
and/or Point of Sale Systems



*Promoting Value
Comparison
and Fair
Competition
in the
Marketplace*